

**CITY OF WARREN PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
February 5, 2019**



The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Suppa. Members present were Mike Suppa, Judi Wilson Jackie Angove, Kirk Johnson, Kris Whitaker and Mark Zavinski. Also attending from the City Staff were Terry Williams, Director of Codes, Permits & Recreation Services, Mike Holtz, DPW Director, David Hildebrand, Planner/Development Administrator & Ellen Nelson, Secretary.

MINUTES

Ms. Whitaker made a motion to accept the December 4, 2018 minutes as presented. The motion, seconded by Ms. Angove, was approved by unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Josh Cotton, Times Observer reporter

REPORT OF OFFICERS

No report.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

CAR Pool. Dani Mostachetti and the YMCA will continue to manage the pool for the City. Mr. Holtz reported that the pool was painted in the fall.

Summer Playground Program. Ms. Williams reported that Megan Butina is returning as our Playground Supervisor. Lacy Playground will not be under construction until 2020 so will continue to be a part of the playground program in 2019. Mr. Suppa asked if dates had been set for the program. They have not but will be provided to the committee once they are determined.

Pavilion Rentals/Special Events. Ms. Williams reviewed some of the rental statistics from 2018. Ms. Nelson stated that letters and applications were mailed to all 2018 Special Event Organizers. Approximately 30 pavilion reservations have already been received for the upcoming summer season.

CITY STAFF REPORTS

Crescent Park Trail & Healing Garden Project – Mike Holtz. Mr. Holtz stated that plans have been submitted for the Healing Gardens last month. Bids will be received in March, contract awarded in April with construction to begin in May. That timeline has not changed. Street Landscape committee is working on plans for the gardens.

Lacy Park – Mike Holtz. Mr. Holtz stated they are squaring away contracts for Lacy Park renovation. Mr. Johnson asked where Special Olympics will play ball once the fields are gone at Lacy. Mr. Holtz was not certain, but the fields by the Bocce Field at Betts Park would work. Mr. Johnson agreed to let the Special Events Committee know the fields at Lacy will be removed so they can plan ahead.

Mulberry Park. There has been discussion to fix the drainage problem at Mulberry Park and make improvements such as a new pavilion, parking, restrooms. Mr. Johnson added that this would be a better location for frisbee golf than Washington Park. Ms. Whitaker is concerned about security at this park as kids have vandalized the restrooms in the past. Mr. Holtz replied that new restrooms would be better built to withstand attempts at vandalism. Ms. Angove asked if the lighting would be improved. Mr. Holtz replied that a new service entrance would be installed. If grant money is awarded, this project would be slated for 2020 and 2021.

City/County combined Zoning efforts. Mr. Hildebrand stated that the City and the County are combining efforts for a comprehensive plan for parks and trails. Grant money would be from the state through DCNR and would include planning and construction.

OLD BUSINESS

Memorial for Denny Crandall. Ms. Whitaker spoke with Elaine Crandall, Denny's wife. She was very receptive to a tree being planted in Denny's memory. He spent a lot of time at Beaty Park with his daughters, so her preference is to plant the tree at Beaty. Ms. Whitaker will inquire if she has a particular species in mind. Elaine requested that their daughters be invited to any memorial service that may be planned.

Mr. Johnson volunteered to dig the hole and plant the tree. Ms. Wilson asked if there would be a plaque. Mr. Holtz stated that the City would do something and then suggested a bench by the tree with Denny's name on the bench.

NEW BUSINESS

NONE.

MISCELLANEOUS

Warren General Helipad. In an effort to increase security at the Warren General Hospital Helipad the area will be restricted to the use of vehicle and trailers. It is still the intention to be able to carry a canoe and launch from the helipad but not have vehicles in the area. It has been a problem when helicopters are attempting to land. Ms. Wilson asked if that would affect the new walkway being planned. Mr. Holtz replied that the walkway would be outside the restricted area.

Special Event & Pavilion applications. Ms. Williams reported that some minor changes are being made to the applications for Special Events and Pavilion rentals. Those changes will affect the Park Ordinance and will need to be presented to the Parks & Rec commission for approval before it is presented to City Council. The changes involve clarifying some of the items such as excessive noise, signs and erection of tents.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. Suppa declared the meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING

April 2, 2018 at 4:35 PM. (This was later changed to April 9)